Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—All those have been transferred to the Panchayat Department.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Are there wells which are accessible to all people at Palayannur ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I have not got that file here. I think last year I explained everything about Palayannur.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—So now they are not under your Department ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—They have been transferred.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I have not received any complaint about that so far.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Are there wells which are open to all classes at Palayannur ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I am not sure.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Altogether there are 12 wells that are open to all classes in the State. That was the reply given to a question yesterday.

Transfer of the Assistant Engineers.

259. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state the special reasons for the latest transfer of the two Assistant Engineers ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The officers were long serving in the same place and it was thought desirable to transfer them.

Licenses for quarrying stone.

260. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to inform the House:—

(1) the number of applications for license to quarry stone received by the Government in the year 1103 ;

(2) the time taken for the disposal of such petition in the ordinary course ;

(3) the object of the Government insisting upon such a license to quarry stone from private holding ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(1) 1,716 applications in all.

(2) 15 to 30 days approximately.

(3) To safeguard public interests and revenue which may be affected by promiscuous quarrying. The Member is also referred to the proceedings of the Council printed on pages 265-276 of Vol. III, Part IV and pages 321—341 of Vol. III, Part V.

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